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Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Economic Development
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Agricultural Extension Service
of Nebr. College of Agriculture

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

WEATHER The week was marked by sharp temperature contrasts, little precipitation, and several days of strong winds. Weekly mean temperatures ranged from several degrees below normal in the northeast corner to 10 to 12 degrees above normal in the southwest and southern Panhandle. The first half of the week was very warm and the last half cool. Temperatures climbed into the 50s and 60s over most of the State on Tuesday and added another 10 to 15 degrees on Wednesday to make a record for December highs at many stations. Only the extreme northeast failed to reach the 60s, 70s were common in mid-state, and the low 80s along the southern border. Hastings and McCook were among the stations setting new record highs for December. By Saturday morning temperatures had fallen below zero over much of the State and not much above zero elsewhere.

Precipitation was generally less than a tenth of an inch, occurring at midweek mainly over the northern half of the State. A few local areas received up to a quarter inch of moisture. The week ended with one to four inches of snow on the ground in the northeast but little or none elsewhere.

Soil erosion from strong winds continued in the west the first half of the week reaching a peak on Wednesday when blowing dust cut visibility sharply and caused dust drifts to accumulate in sheltered areas.

CROPS Areas in the southwestern and northeastern parts of the State benefitted from the recent snowfall. The snow cover provided protection against low temperatures and added some moisture to the top soil when it melted. Other sections of the State remained extremely dry. Moisture is needed for winter crops, pastures and ranges. High winds and bad dust storms caused erosion and crop damage in the west. Temperature extremes have been rough on the western wheat crop, which is not well rooted.

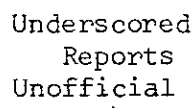
Except for the short period of snow cover, ranges, pastures and stalk fields were open to grazing and roughing livestock. This eased requirements for hay and other feeds. Western counties have below normal supplies of feed grains and hay. Pastures and range conditions are below normal in most all sections of the State, except in some central and eastern counties. For the State as a whole, feed grain production was down 21 percent in 1964. Feed prices have been moving upward.

LIVESTOCK Most livestock made good use of field feeds again this week. Relief from sub-zero temperatures was welcomed by stockmen and only a few local set-backs in livestock production were noted. Feed lot cattle have been making good gains. Winter farrowings are underway. Although winter litters are expected to increase slightly from a year ago, they will be short of the average by 3 percent.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 28, 1964

<u>East</u>		<u>Central</u>		<u>West</u>	
Grand Island	0	Burwell	0	Chadron	.10
Lincoln	T	North Platte	T	Imperial	0
Norfolk	.12	Valentine	.02	Scottsbluff	.06
Omaha	.14			Sidney	0
Sioux City	.25				

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HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURE (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:01 a.m., and
lows for 12 hours ending at 6:00 a.m., CST)

		December		23rd		24th		25th		26th		27th		28th	
		22nd													
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	55	50	64	57	64	14	32	7	24	-1	27	8	38	28
	Scottsbluff	54	41	62	50	62	33	50	24	39	12	38	22	34	23
	Sidney	57	40	62	44	65	32	46	20	40	6	43	15	35	16
NC	Burwell	42	24	57	34	71	15	21	9	20	-2	36	14	32	--
	Valentine	37	30	53	44	68	8	16	7	14	-8	35	20	30	25
NE	Norfolk	35	15	43	40	60	15	16	2	13	-5	27	8	26	22
	Sioux City	29	11	40	26	46	16	23	2	13	-10	11	-1	27	21
CEN	Grand Island	44	28	60	46	76	22	27	10	20	0	29	14	30	23
EC	Lincoln	46	26	57	46	71	24	24	17	23	4	28	13	34	25
	Omaha	40	22	47	39	65	19	19	14	19	-3	21	8	29	23
SW	Imperial	56	34	62	50	71	28	39	20	40	8	46	17	33	22
	North Platte	50	27	64	42	74	21	34	17	32	2	41	16	29	25

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